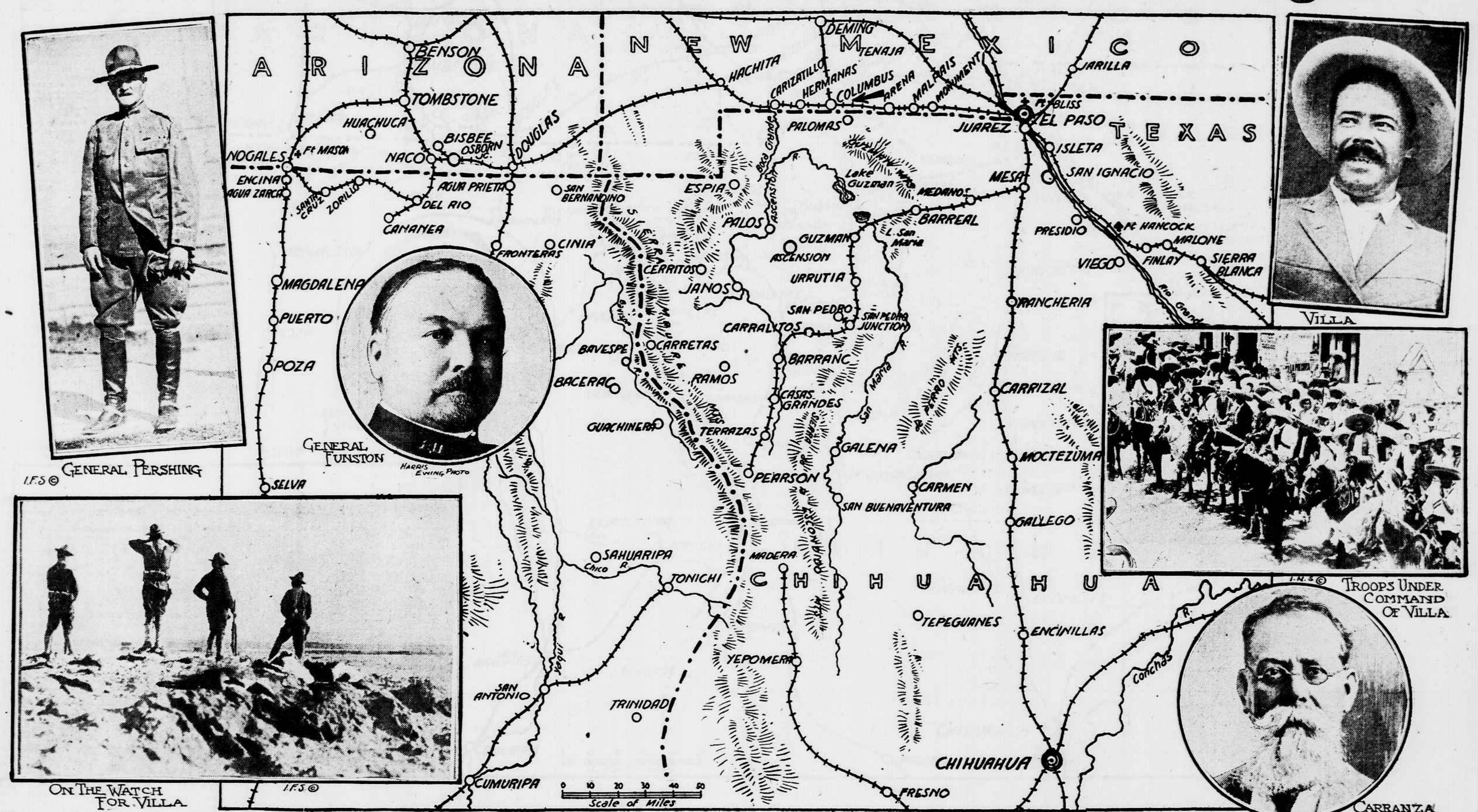


# Where the United States Troops Are Chasing Villa



## Society of Colonial Wars Wants Military Efficiency and Preparedness

**A**MONG the organizations which have declared themselves advocates of thorough military efficiency and preparedness is found the Society of Colonial Wars. Naturally, too, since a group of men whose purpose has hitherto been the commemoration of brave deeds, mainly military, of the ancestors of many of pure American stock are alive to the need of protecting the heritage handed down by those ancestors.

In a resolution recently introduced by Frederic Louis Huidekoper, lieutenant-governor of the branch in the District of Columbia, the organization declared its members unworthy descendants of the men who fought for the freedom of the United States if they are unwilling to contribute their utmost to bring about adequate defense both on land and sea.

The resolution is in the following words: "That the members of the Society of Colonial Wars, in their respective communities and in their respective countries, be exhorted to exercise, both collectively and as individuals, such influence in their respective communities and in their respective countries, that the proper strength and organization may be given to American land and naval forces."

Beyond this resolution the society as a whole has no distinct policy regarding the much discussed problem of preparedness. However, as an officer of the society and a man of wide experience and knowledge of things military, Mr. Huidekoper, in voicing his own suggestions for defense, expresses in the main the policy of the society.

In December, 1915, Mr. Huidekoper, upon his return from several months spent in France, England and Germany, I was gratified to see the awakening on the part of Americans in the realization of the necessity for proper national defense. I found that many were working for nearly nine years to secure, people were then beginning to ask to know the reason for the military forces, a thing to which most Americans had previously been satisfied, indifferent, believing that since we had someone or other emergency successfully from our past wars, that we could continue to follow the same course in the future.

In the fifteen months which have elapsed since the last time I have spoken in national defense, the interest in national defense, but even today the nation as a whole does not realize that our military forces are the backbone of the world and that Europe is jealous of our strength. As we have never yet been pitifully engaged in a military force, we have no appreciation of what is meant by the application of thoroughness in the training of military forces. The weapons and the tactics are infinitely more intricate than those of our fathers and grandfathers and it takes much longer to make a good soldier.

As a result of long indifference our army has been permitted to dwindle to microscopic size. Indeed, it is only a little more than twice as large as the army of Montenegro. The latest official statistics show that our regular army numbers only 4,224 officers and 56,169 enlisted men. Even if there be added to these troops the 4,506 in the Quartermaster Corps, 2,599 in the Hospital Corps and the 182 officers and 5,512 in the Philippine Scouts, the total is only 69,066 officers and 104,247 men, a small force for a great nation.

Sound wisdom dictates that the garrisons in overseas possessions must always be maintained at full strength. It has been officially stated that when the mobile troops—that is, infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers and signal troops which can be moved from place to place—necessary in the overseas possessions have been sent there, the mobile army in continental

**R**ESOLUTION Recently Adopted Declared Members Unworthy Descendants of the Men Who Fought for Freedom of United States if They Are Unwilling to Contribute Their Utmost to Bring About Adequate Defense Both on Land and Sea—Frederic Louis Huidekoper, Lieutenant Governor of District Branch of Society, Gives Suggestions for Defense.

United States will number less than 25,000—in other words, only about twice the size of the police force of New York city alone. Such a force would be smaller than the regular army at any time since the close of 1881, except directly after the close of the civil war, when we had about a million and a half veteran volunteers, notwithstanding that the population has increased many millions.

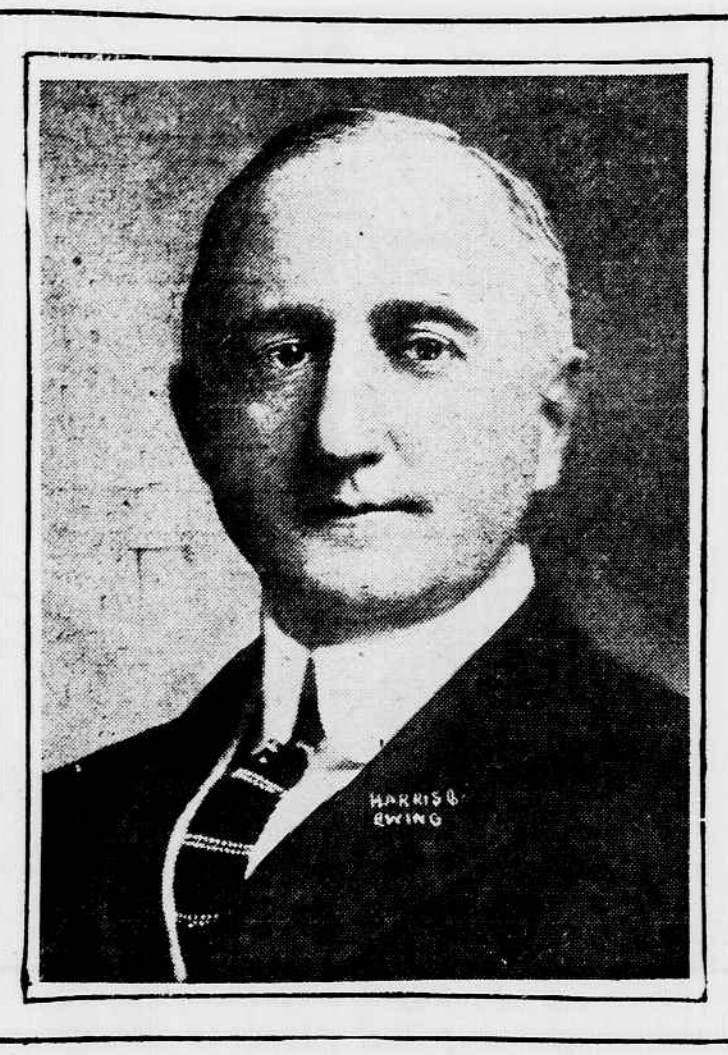
Mr. Huidekoper's figures are substantiated by indisputable authority in each instance. Much of his most important material he states is unobtainable from memory, but it will all be found in his latest book, "The Military Unpreparedness of the United States," which enjoys the distinction of being the first complete history of American land forces from colonial times down to the present ever written.

Turning to its pages from time to time, Mr. Huidekoper declared that the coast artillery he declared that the sufficiency of our troops had been sent to the overseas possessions will only remain about one-third of the number needed to man the fortifications of the United States proper. He emphasized the fact that we have no coast defenses against harbor defenses; that many important places are still unfortified; that the entrance to the Chesapeake is still unguarded in spite of the urgent recommendations of the Taft board ten years ago; that many of the guns of our fortifications are obsolete, their range being more than four miles less than the guns of the British dreadnaughts of the type of the War of 1812 and Queen Elizabeth.

He also showed from official reports of the War Department that the number of our coast searchlights, mines and power plants our fortifications are decidedly deficient.

Mr. Huidekoper then took up the question of ammunition. "It is astounding," he declared, "to realize that if the guns in the fortifications of continental United States were fired at their maximum rate they would expend every bit of ammunition provided for them in forty-five minutes. In the case of the mortars the conditions are even worse, because they would be expended in only thirty minutes. One shudder to contemplate what would happen if our fortifications were subjected to such grueling bombardments for weeks as those in the Barbadoes were compelled to undergo."

Not only is there a lack of armament and troops in the fortifications already in existence, but there is a pressing need for additional fortifications. As the Taft board reported ten years ago, the Chesapeake bay always has been a source of the very first importance, both commercially and strategically. Its entrance is now unguarded and its shores are open to the gain control of the sea, could establish, without coming under fire of a single gun fired for only a short time, in and out at pleasure, have access to large quantities of valuable supplies of all kinds, and paralyze the great trunk railway line crossing the head of the bay.



FREDERIC L. HUIDEKOPER.

And has been purchased at Cape Henry for the erection of fortifications, but none has been acquired at Cape Charles and no appropriation has been made for defense there. The fortifications of the Panama Canal Zone are distinctly better than those in the United States. The ammunition supply, however, is so small that were the guns fired at their maximum rate an hour and forty-six minutes would suffice to exhaust the last round of ammunition. Also there are no defenses against a land attack by a hostile force disembarking on the Pacific side at a point about sixty miles south of Panama and advancing along the plateau.

under it, that all forces be organized so as to be instantly available; that the Military Academy at West Point be enlarged and the military instruction camps be systematized to embrace men up to forty-five years old; that the names and addresses of all men who have received intensive military training be registered at the War Department; and that all military finance be placed on a budget system.

"Adequate preparation never has been made after the beginning of hostilities," declared Mr. Huidekoper, "without unnecessary slaughter, expense and national peril."

Mr. Huidekoper's ideas concerning the need of preparedness in the United States represent in general the attitude of the members of the Society of Colonial Wars, said Frederic Bulkeley Hyde, secretary of that organization in the District of Columbia. "The movement of the District of Columbia branch of the society, to further the cause of preparedness by sending its resolutions to each of the other branches, will reach some 42,000 men. Twenty-six states have chapters, which means that

nomically administered or attain that efficiency which it ought to possess unless four-fifths of the garrisons and posts in the country are abolished. The War College has estimated that a saving of about \$5,000,000 per annum would be made if the present mobile forces were concentrated in eight groups.

"The act of May 27, 1908, prescribed that the organized militia should be called into service in advance of the National Guard must be taken wholly out of the hands of the several states and placed under the control of the government, or appraised at its true value and relegated to the third line of defense. The value of an organized force of United States volunteers was demonstrated by the splendid body of volunteers created during the Philippine insurrection under a law of March 2, 1899.

"Such a force would be national and not called out for police duty. It would be organized for war and given intensive training. There is no more reason why the states should have independent land forces destined to be employed in national service in time of war than that they should have independent navies.

"As a military force for defense, Mr. Huidekoper suggests a regular army of 250,000 men, a reserve of the regular army amounting eventually to 420,000 troops, a force of United States volunteers and an organized militia or National Guard.

"In order to ascertain the value of the organized militia, let the President call out the militia by proclamation," he suggested. "When the militia has been assembled in the respective states, let each officer and man announce whether or not he will volunteer for war service. It could also be determined how many are up to the proper standard, and the whole undertaking would scarcely exceed the cost of a joint summer maneuver. The organization of all forces should be made in time of peace, and a reserve force of trained officers should be created, thus avoiding the trouble that Great Britain has experienced in the near future.

"If military drill, hygiene and the elements of rifle shooting were made compulsory in every public and private school, college and university in the United States it would simplify the problem immensely.

"Mr. Huidekoper suggests, additionally, that there be one or two more assistant secretaries of war, that all the river and harbor work be placed where it belongs, in the Department of Interior; that the national parks and reservations also be placed under this department and policed by a constabulary instead of regulars; that the United States have a colonial department with a cabinet officer at the head, and the bureau of insular affairs placed

## AMERICAN DYE INDUSTRY AND EUROPEAN COMPETITION

**T**HE dye industry of the United States and the manufacturers of products derived from coal, which include chemicals needed in colors and in the making of those explosives which might at any time be required for national defense, are knocking at the court of public opinion for what they believe to be their just share of national encouragement and protection against somewhat cheaper production in Europe. It is pointed out that in certain European countries, notably in Germany, the world's principal producer of dyes and some explosive essentials, the low price of the product has been brought about not by natural facilities or greater efficiency in production, but by government subsidies and other government aid.

The chemical industry of the United States has had an uphill fight against cheap production in Europe, yet it has courageously stood by its guns, or at least by its plants and its industry. Mr. W. Jordan, in a recent address before the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, said: "Some of the most important products which were widely heralded as having been produced for the first time in America in 1915 were manufactured by Zinsler & Co. from 1880 until 1897, when foreign competition closed the plant. Synthetic carbolic acid was manufactured by the Smet-Solvay Company from benzol at Syracuse in 1900, and the following year in quantities up to 2,500 pounds daily. The United States had several well-equipped plants prior to 1885 for the manufacture of synthetic carbolic acid. The industry grew and produced an increasing number of synthetic products. The principal one of these manufacturers has continued without interruption, and constitute the main body of our present organic chemical industry."

The close watch which German and English dye manufacturers have kept on the American market and the threat of American competition are shown in the matter of the Benzol Products Company, which was organized in 1910 by men long associated with the acid, alkali and coal products industry. It began the manufacture of aniline and aniline salt at Frankford,

Needful, But Utopian.

**M**AYOR CURLEY of Boston was talking about certain reforms.

"They'll come, I guess," he said. "In time we'll have those and many other municipal reforms. But at present they seem Utopian and impossible."

"Yes, such reforms seem as incredible today as the fake dinner invitation that was sent out by a Boston wag."

"Still, I was wishing to rebuke the parsimony of a rich Back Bay host, got up a fake invitation that read:—

"Mr. and Mrs. Back Bay Pontney request the honor of your presence at dinner on Wednesday evening next at 8 o'clock. (Wine merchant and cigar dealer both changed since last dinner.)"